

Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Program

Guidelines

The following guidelines identify the requirements necessary to apply for funding through this program. Please complete the attached Application Form. All materials must be submitted on letter size pages (8-1/2 x 11”), single sided, in black and white only. This includes any maps, drawings, photos, and text. For text entries, use a minimum type font size of 12-pitch type *Application package is to be no more than a total of fifteen pages in length (excluding the vicinity map). All applications are due August 31, 2000, by 5:00p.m. at the FMSIB office. (Faxes are acceptable.)*

*Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board
PO Box 40965
Olympia, WA 98504-0965
Fax: (360)586-9700*

Strategic Freight Corridors

For a project to be eligible for consideration in this program it must be located on a strategic freight corridor as designated by the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board. However, new alignments to, realignments of, and new links to strategic freight corridors that enhance the freight movement may qualify, even though no tonnage data exists.

Project Summary

Project Title: Provide the title of the project. If this project is a separate stage of a larger project please indicate which stage.

Applicant Organization: Name of the lead agency and their agency number requesting funding for the project. Include a contact person, their title, address, email address, phone and fax numbers.

Project Location: Identify the city, county and legislative districts in which the project is located.

Identify Strategic Freight Corridor: Identify the strategic freight corridor on which this project is located. (Attaching a detailed vicinity map of the proposed project is required.) Use city/county names, political boundaries, street names, highway route numbers, physical features, mileposts or “direction and distance from” to indicate the location and extent of the project or work sites. Also include the beginning and ending points of the project on the corridor.

Project Addressed in any Regional and/or State Transportation Plans: Identify if the proposed project is in a regional and/or state transportation plan and the date of its inclusion. (0-5 point scale)

Attachments: A vicinity map is required. Make sure that the vicinity map (8 ½ x 11) clearly identifies the strategic freight corridor and location of the project and is an appropriate scale to show the extent of the project.

Guidelines

Project Summary

Cost Summary: The total cost of all phases of the project as described. The dollar amount of the funds being requested from the freight mobility strategic investment program. The Board policy is 35% minimum match, however, in extreme situations the Board may consider as low as 20% as minimum match. Keep in mind that this program operates on an invoice basis and funding in advance is not available.

Matching Funds Summary: Indicate the total match you have committed and/or anticipate and the percentage of match in relation to the total project cost. Also, identify how much of the match is from the public sector and the private sector, and the percentage of each type of match in relation to the total project cost.

Funding Detail

Partnerships (Section 1): In this section, please list **all** the types of matching fund sources from both the public and private sector partners. Then check whether the funds are anticipated or have already been committed to the project. Also, identify the dollars that **each** fund source is contributing. Finally, total the dollars from all the partners. (Public sector match includes: city, county, state, port (if the funds are applied to a project on port property) and federal funds. Private sector match includes: railroad, port (if funds are for a project not on port property), private funds raised through specific project collection measures (i.e., LID, impact fees, etc.) and private industry funds.

(Section 2): Again list all the types of matching fund sources and their totals from Section 1. In the PE, RW & CN columns list how the money is split in these phases, including where the project intends to use the FMSIB funds. In the need column: total those funds that are anticipated. In the total column: the total for each phase of work and finally the total project cost. In the Tentative timeframe column: identify the month and year each phase will be completed, including advertisement and construction start date.

Cash Flow Needs (Section 3): In this section identify the biennium and phase in which you anticipate dollars being expended, separating out the freight mobility funds. In the total column they should equal those previously identified in Section 2. Finally, total all the columns up and show the percentages per the Total Project Cost. These numbers should be the same as those shown on the cover page.

Applicants can receive up to a maximum of 20 points in this section. The points can be achieved through a combination of public and private sector participation and the amount of funds being provided for the project. **This program requires 35% match.** The Board policy is 35% minimum match, however, in extreme situations the Board may consider as low as 20% as minimum match. (0-20 point scale)

Once the project has 20% match, points will be given as follows::

- 1 point for every 4% public sector match above 20%
- 1 point for every 2% private sector match above 20%

Guidelines

Project Narrative

Question 1: This question is for the applicant to describe the scope of work of the project and to explain how this project meets the intent of the freight mobility program.

Freight Mobility for the Project Area (35 points): This section has two parts.

Question 2 & 3: These two questions are directed at the reduction of truck, train or rail car delays. In Question 2, a formula provided to determine the reduction in truck delay that will result from the freight project. In Question 3, please provide the savings per train, the number of trains and the average train length and how this was determined. (0-25 point scale)

Question 4 & 5: These two questions focus on the improvement in the volume to capacity (v/c) for truck or train movements during peak periods. In Question 4, a formula is provided for truck movements. Whereas, Question 5, asks for you to describe and provide the information on current capacity and the amount of improvement anticipated for train movement during peak periods. (0-10 point scale)

Freight Mobility for the Region, State, & Nation (35 points): This section has four parts.

Question 6: Describe the significance of this project to the regional economy. Focus on how this project will impact the regional freight transportation system and the regional economy. For example: nature of the improvement and principal freight moved; improved intra-regional and inter-regional freight movement in terms of products, industries and direct employment; improved freight movement and access to domestic and international markets in terms of freight, industries and direct employment; benefits to other regional industries; and access and links to intermodal connections and facilities. (0-10 point scale)

Question 7: Describe significance of this project to the state economy. The focus will be on the project's impact on the state freight transportation system and the state economy (outside the region). For example: improved intrastate freight movement in terms of products, industries and direct employment; improved freight movement to domestic and international markets in terms of freight, industries and direct employment; and benefits to other state industries. (0-10 point scale)

Question 8: Describe how the project improves freight movement for direct port access or across an international border. Direct access is defined as a project that leads directly to a port as its major destination and is generally within 2 miles of that port. An international border crossing project is one that actually speeds the movement of freight across that border and would nearly always be within 1 mile of a current or planned crossing. (0-10 point scale)

Question 9: Describe how this project is part of a regional corridor solution or major system improvement, including whether the project has the support of the local MPO/RTPO. (0-5 point scale)

Guidelines

Project Narrative

General Mobility (25 points): This section has four parts.

Question 10: Calculate the reduced vehicular traffic delay of all vehicles with the formula provided. (0-10 point scale)

Question 11: Calculate the reduced queuing and backups as result of this project with the formula provided. (0-7 point scale)

Question 12: Determine the travel time (in minutes) to an unobstructed crossing when the particular crossing you are improving is blocked. (0-5 point scale)

Question 13: Designate whether the project is located on an urban principal arterial. (0-3 point scale)

Safety (20 points): This section has four parts.

Question 14: Identify whether there has been any railroad crossing accidents (0-5 point scale) and/or non-railroad crossing accidents (0-5 point scale) that this project will help reduce. Summarize the 5-year accident history and explain how the project will reduce these accidents.

Question 15: Describe if the project is located on an essential emergency vehicle access route and include the closest alternative emergency access. (0-5 point scale)

Question 16: Identify how many and where related railroad crossing closures will take place as a result of this project. (0-5 point scale)

Freight and Economic Value (15 points): This section has three parts.

Question 17: Describe how this project will benefit mainline rail operations (i.e., increases train speed, improves train access to terminals, etc.) (0-5 point scale)

Question 18: Describe how this project will improve access to key employment areas, include the number of employees, the business, etc. affected by the access. (0-5 point scale)

Question 19: Describe the applicants level of support for train speed increases if the improvement is funded. (0-5 point scale)

Environment (10 points): This section has two parts.

Question 20: Identify whether the project is located in a non-attainment area. (0-5 point scale)

Question 21: Identify how many sensitive receptor sites are affected by the reduction in train whistle noise in the vicinity of the grade separation. Vicinity is identified as a quarter of a mile up and down the track and 600 feet each side of centerline. Sensitive Receptor sites include residences, schools, churches, hospitals, hotels and motels, each counted as individual facilities. (0-5 point scale)

Guidelines

Project Narrative

Partnerships (25 points): This section has two parts.

See Funding Detail section for first section. (0-20 point scale)

Question 22 & 23: (0-5 point scale)

Question 22: Describe the critical timing of the partnership investments and why it is important to get this project underway within the next year. For example: available partner funding, project impacts, or other critical timing issues.

Question 23: Explain if there are any environmental impacts that may affect the project's implementation. For example: water quality, displaced businesses, wildlife refuge, etc.

Cost (10 points): This section has two parts.

Question 24: Calculate the cost-effectiveness of the project using the formula provided. (0-7 point scale)

Question 25: Describe the degree to which least-cost alternatives were analyzed and considered for the project and what other potential solutions were considered. (i.e., value engineering study, etc.) (0-3 point scale)

Special Issues (8 points):

Question 26: Describe special or unique circumstances of the project that have not been previously addressed in the application. This may include non-traditional type freight mobility projects, such as the use of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technology, public support and coordination, etc. (0-8 point scale)